

W. E. Razzell file



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

September 17, 1980

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Dr. W. E. Razzell
P. O. Box 875
Suva, Fiji

*file Nossal
as well as
Razzell*

Dear Bill:

I was intrigued to get a letter from you with a Suva postmark and was pleased that it was forwarded to me here with minimum delay.

Of course I would be happy to support your references and please don't regard this as an imposition. In fact I will also be seeing Gus Nossal when he visits here in a day or two and I certainly want to bring your name to his attention; if you are going to be in Australia I would urge you to drop in on him at the Hall Institute Laboratories at the University of Melbourne. I have one or two other possibilities in mind and it would help if you could send me an updated C.V.: the last I have dates back to about 1969. If I can ask you to list other references: it may be important for me to point to people who could say something about your work in Vancouver.

I last visited Suva 23 years ago and was rather intrigued by the paramedical college that was established there at that time under the leadership of, I believe, a Dr. Edmonds. I'd be curious if you could bring me up-to-date what has happened to that particular enterprise. I'd certainly found the island a fascinating one to visit. It is easy to understand your exasperation at the national politics that seem to dominate so many international initiatives.

I was sorry to hear about your domestic stresses and troubles, and wish you all the best.

Had you thought about going back to Khorana's lab for the refresher? Do you want me to ask around here? (I wish there were some visible fellowship money to add to the incentives but....).

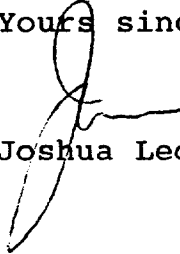
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As a matter of fact, I hear that Syntex is probably (finally!) going into gene splicing itself but I assume you hardly need the reminder to drop a similar line to John Moffatt.

Finally, needless to say, if you find yourself in New York I hope you will drop in. I hope also to be spending a few weeks back again at Stanford next summer.

Yours sincerely,



Joshua Lederberg

Encl.

P.S. In fact I did just this minute have a chance to talk to Gus Nossal and he wanted to pass on two things: 1) By all means to visit him at the Hall Institute if you have the opportunity. 2) To bring to your attention the fact that there is going to be a very substantial expansion of work in marine biology in Australia focused in large measure on problems of both exploiting and protecting the barrier reef. So if you are not too totally disenchanted about continuing that aspect of your career I think there might really be an exciting opportunity in that direction for someone of your overall background.

As Nossal may or may not be in town unless you make some prior arrangement he urged you to write to him with more particulars of your interest regardless.

He also wanted to transmit a reminder that the Alberta Heritage Foundation will be pumping in an enormous amount of money into medical research in that province -- a matter that you must surely be informed of yourself. I did not go into him the likelihood that you would have preferences elsewhere at this time but this is a subject you can take up yourself.

P.P.S. Sir Gustav Nossal, Director, The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Post Office Royal Melbourne Hospital, Victoria 3050, Australia.